

**NEWS RELEASE** 

## **Gallatin Awarded SIA Grant**

(August 23, 2013) Gallatin received confirmation this week that the City has been awarded a State Industrial Access (SIA) grant to widen approximately 1.1 miles of Airport Road to improve safety and meet the needs of the growing industrial community.

This project will expand Airport road from Coles Ferry Rd., through the intersection at Steam Plant Rd., and then connect with the realignment of Airport Rd. in front of the airport – a project also being funded 100% by a state and federal grant. The result will be overall improvement to a 2.3 mile stretch of Airport Rd.

"Given the strength and growth of the existing industries along that stretch of road, it was a quick decision for the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) to approve this grant," Mayor Jo Ann Graves said. "We appreciate TDOT's recognition of our business success and we appreciate the industries who have made a commitment to our community."

"This will help with some of the traffic concerns along that stretch." added James Fenton, Executive Director of the Gallatin Economic Development Agency. "We have had companies change their shift hours to alleviate the traffic, so we moved forward with this application to help them."

TDOT is going to be in charge of surveying, designing and constructing the road at no cost to the City of Gallatin. Because the section of road being upgraded includes a railroad crossing, the City of Gallatin will be responsible for 50% of the cost of moving the crossing signals. No cost estimates have been provided for the project that is slated to begin sometime in the summer of 2014.